CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 10, No. 39 TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 26, 1945 $2.00 Per Annum

RKO's First Dom'n Convention

Columbia Opens New Building

The new exchange and office building of Columbia Pictures, a structure replacing the head office premises on the fourth floor of 21 Dundas Square, Toronto, was officially opened on September 24th. The location is at 72 Carlton Street, near Church,

(Continued on Page 10)

Eric Johnston Set For Hays' Post

Eric Johnston, head of the United States Chamber of Commerce, will shortly assume charge of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America.

Will Hays, after whom the organization was unofficially

(Continued on Page 2)

Depinet, Mochrie, McCormick et al Confab With Canuck Confreres

Inauguration of a Canadian regional conference by RKO Radio Pictures brought most of the company's top men, led by President Ned E. Depinet, to Montreal from September 10th to 12th, inclusive. During the period of the conference, held at the Windsor Hotel, the New York home office representatives talked over product and policy with the Canadian delegation, headed by Leo M. Devaney, Canadian division general manager.

Presence of the RKO men in Montreal led to a number of enjoyable evenings in which Quebec theatre men and members of the press participated.

Chief excitement for the Can-

(Continued on Page 2)

Paul to Brantford Following Change

Joe Paul, veteran Dominion theatre manager, has been transferred by Twentieth Century Theatres from the Park, Welland, Ontario, to the Esquire, Brantford, succeeding Harry Soloman.

The Brantford theatre is one of a number now wholly operated as Twentieth Century Theatres' units but which, until recently, were held in partnership with Firestone Enterprises.

Paul started as a salesman for Regal in 1918. Later he sold film in British Columbia.

Snowdon Plans To Go Ahead

Snowdon Investors, prevented from proceeding with the erection of a theatre at the corner of Snowden Avenue and Yonge Street, Toronto, by a judgment of Justice Urquart, Osgoode Hall, will build across the way if an appeal by the City of Tor-

(Continued on Page 18)

Hitchinson Passes

Harold Hitchinson, veteran theatre manager and a charter member of the Famous Players 25 Year Club, died last week.

Before retiring last year, the late Mr. Hitchinson managed the Strand Theatre, Hamilton.

USA RKO Men at Canadian Confab

Here are the lads who came from the New York office of RKO to talk things over with their Canadian colleagues as to how to make the exhibitor aware of the top ticket-selling power packed in the new season's program. The idea exchanging was done during the Dominion regional conference of the company, held at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, for three days of the week beginning September 10th.

From left to right are S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity; M. G. Poller, assistant to the general sales manager; Robert Mochrie, general sales manager; Ned E. Depinet, president; A. A. Schubart, branch operations manager; and H. J. Michalson, short subjects sales manager.

Canada 20th-Fox in Regional Session

A complete analysis of the 1945-46 sales schedule and policy was outlined by Sydney Samson, general manager for Canada of Twentieth Century-Fox, before the Eastern Canada meeting of the company at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Montreal, on September 13th and 14th.

Samson itemized the program, discussing each feature individually, then described the short subject schedule, which includes the March of Time. Important problems involving the sale of the new program to unsold situations came in for thorough discussion.

The three Eastern offices were personally thanked by Samson for their accomplishments during the last drive. Coupled with this was his own gratitude for

(Continued on Page 10)

Leserman Quits UA For Howard Hughes

Carl Leserman, general sales manager of United Artists, is reported resigning as of October 1st to join Howard Hughes, Independent producer. Hughes is said to be in partnership with Henry Kaiser for the establishment of a releasing organization and the building of theatres in cities under 50,000 in population, as well as the financing of Independent producers.

No successor has been named for the post.

FOR PRODUCTION UNSURPASSED
Watch UNIVERSAL 1945-46

Eric Johnston Set For Hays' Post

(Continued from Page 1)

named the "Hays Office," is the current president. He will remain in an advisory capacity.

Active direction and management will be in Johnston's hands, while Hays will provide the benefit of his experience. The present prexy conferred recently in the White House with President Truman, saying afterwards: "We discussed the international situation generally and, of course, the potential usefulness of motion pictures in the period ahead all over the world."

The story is that Johnston will be given a five-year contract at $150,000 annually, plus an expense account of $50,000.

Affiliates of the MPPDA, represented in Canada by the office in charge of Ed Wells, feel that they need a strong man to head their group. Competition for them has arisen on this continent through the formation recently of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers in Hollywood and the growing strength of the British Film Producers Association, which is headed by J. Arthur Rank. Donald Nelson, former Washington official, heads the Independent group.

Chatam Rotary Men Hear Jolley Speak

Guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Rotary Club, Chatham, Ontario, Arch. H. Jolley, secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, addressed the club on "Fifty Years of Growth in the Motion Picture Industry."

Harry Wilson and Frank Reid, managers respectively of the Capitol and Centre theatres, Chatham, were guests at the meeting. Wilson was accepted as a member of the Rotary Club.

Fort Erie Theatre Marks Fifth Year

Parkway Theatre, Fort Erie, Ontario celebrated its fifth anniversary recently by making several substantial donations to charitable organizations and service clubs in the community.

The Fort Erie branch of the Canadian Legion received $100; the Lion Club's British War Victim's Fund was given $120; and $100 was contributed to the Red Cross.

Donations were presented at a ceremony in the theatre attended by hundreds of spectators.

RKO Holds First Dom'n Confab

(Continued from Page 1)

adian staff of RKO was generated through the screening of two of the company's features for the 1945-46 season, "The Spanish Main" and "The Bells of St. Mary's."

"The Spanish Main," in Technicolor, has Paul Henreid, Maureen O'Hara and Walter Slezak as its co-stars and is a swashbuckling adventure story of the kind that provides an interesting and entertaining journey away from contemporary problems.

"The Bells of St. Mary's," directed by the masterful Leo McCarey, features Bing Crosby and Ingrid Bergman. Impartial observers have declared the film to be something rare in industry history, one with appeal beyond that of any film in recent years.

Scene of the screenings was the York Theatre, St. Catharine Street West, prior to the Monday and Tuesday sessions.

The Canadian delegation at the conference included Leo M. Devaney; W. S. Jones, branch manager, Vancouver; Reg Doddridge, branch manager, and Joe Bermack, salesman, Calgary; Mark Plottel, branch manager, and Myer Nackimson and Murray Devaney, salesmen, Toronto; H. F. Taylor, branch manager, Harry Decker and Joe Dorfman, salesmen, and Harry Cohen, booker, Montreal; H. H. McArthur, branch manager, Saint John; George Degnon, Canadian publicity representative; and Ted Carey, auditor at Toronto.

From New York came Ned E. Depinet; Robert Mochrie, general sales manager; M. G. Poller, assistant to the sales manager; Harry J. Michalson, short subject sales manager; S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity; and A. A. Schubart, branch operations manager.

Delegates were entertained at the famed El Morocco Club, where dinner was served and a floor show presented, and at a cocktail party and dinner at Windsor Hotel's Blue Room.

Among the Quebec theatre men who were guests at the various social affairs were George Ganetakos, president, United Amusements; John Ganetakos, general manager, Confederated Theatres; and Alex Adilman and George Rotsky, Consolidated Theatres. From Toronto came R. W. Bolstad, vice-president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation; Ben Geldsaler, general booking manager of that circuit; and Ray Tubman, its Ottawa district manager.

A detailed report on RKO Radio's program for the new season was carried in the Canadian Film Weekly of August 22nd.

Aide Appointed to Columbia's Prexy

Commander Arthur A. Schmidt has been appointed special assistant to Harry Cohn, president of Columbia Pictures, with the title of advertising consultant.

He took over his new duties after discharge from U.S. Navy.

ALLIED CO-OPERATIVE THEATRES

Announces the appointment of

HERMAN BENNETT

(BENNETT CONSTRUCTION CO.)

As Construction Consultant to All Members

A FREE SERVICE

ELgin 1391 *112 Bond Street, Toronto*

Canadian Film Weekly

Vol. 10, No. 39 Sept. 26, 1945

HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

Address all communications—The Managing Editor, Canadian Film Weekly, 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Canada.

Published by Film Publications of Canada Ltd., 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Phone ADelaide 4317. Price 5 cents each or $2.00 per year.

Entered as Second Class Matter.

Printed by Eveready Printers Limited, 78 Wellington Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

To Allied Co-Op

ZEKE SCHEINE

Eastern division booker for Odeon Theatres, Zeke Scheine has resigned and will join the booking department of the recently-organized Allied Co-Operative Theatres.

Zeke, the mildest-mannered booker in the business, got into show business as an usher at the Astor Theatre, Toronto, and served in various capacities there and later at the Dundas Playhouse, now the Brock.

In 1931 he became a poster clerk at Associated Theatres, shortly after that company opened for business, was assigned to booking. In that capacity he served with Hanson Theatres and then Odeon.

Thank Showmen For Farm Commando Aid

Arch. H. Jolley, executive secretary, Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, has received a letter from V. C. Phelan, director of information, on behalf of the Department of Labor, Ottawa, thanking theatre men "for the assistance given so kindly in connection with the distributing and exhibiting of the clips on farm labor."

Over 600 theatres in Canada co-operated in the Farm Commando Campaign to which the letter referred. Some houses ran four-minute trailers and all ran 45-second clips.

PROJECTIONIST WANTED

Must Have Quebec License

Apply File No. 1664
Selective Service Bureau,
Rouyn, Quebec.

Artist's conception of a
suspense-filled moment
in "Lady on a Train,"
a Universal picture

Alice Harold Murphy

Deanna DURBIN

has held her top position among Hollywood stars because her pictures have consistently offered new and exciting forms of entertainment. "LADY ON A TRAIN" is an eminent example. Deanna plays an entirely different type of role—a lovely society girl who becomes involved in a murder . . . and further involved with five men, one of whom is the killer.

The tense adventure of "LADY ON A TRAIN" is punctuated by lots of comedy to make this a delightful movie. A little love for good measure, plus Deanna's singing of two melodic songs—"Night and Day" and "Give Me a Little Kiss"—will add to audience enjoyment.

It is our opinion that "LADY ON A TRAIN" will be one of the most successful Deanna Durbin pictures. See it soon and date it for big returns.

HEADED

FOR

BIG BUSINESS

Deanna Durbin

in

"LADY ON A TRAIN"

with

RALPH BELLAMY · DAVID BRUCE

GEORGE COULOURIS • ALLEN JENKINS • DAN DURYEA • EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
PATRICIA MORISON • ELIZABETH PATTERSON • MARIA PALMER • JACQUELINE de WIT

Produced by FELIX JACKSON • Directed by CHARLES DAVID
Associate Producer: HOWARD CHRISTIE • Screenplay by EDMUND BELOIN and ROBERT O'BRIEN • Original Story by LESLIE CHARTERIS

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 10, No. 39 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Twice Blessed

with Preston Foster, Gail Patrick, Wilde Twins

MGM 76 Mins.

TAILOR-MADE, FUN-LOVING YARN FOR THE WILDE TWINS WITH DEFINITE FAMILY APPEAL.

Maintaining a formula of cross-situations, the film dotes on the "which-twin-is-which" idea and offers many amusing bits with the ingratiating Wilde sisters hugging the screen.

Gail Patrick and Preston Foster are cast as parents who have been divorced for seven years because of conflicting conceptions on how to raise children. Both are made the victims of a hoax when the twins, also split by the Court, one a brilliant student, the other a first class jitterbug, decide to go to work on their parents to cement the broken relations.

Much of the action deals with the "acclimating" conditions of the twins as they discover they are best suited to each other's boy friends, Jimmy Lydon and Marshall Thompson.

Harry Beaumont has directed with a light, entertaining touch, using suitably injected jitterbug dance interludes for novel as well as comedy relief.

CAST: Preston Foster, Gail Patrick, Lee Wilde, Lyn Wilde, Richard Gaines, Jean Porter, Marshall Thompson, Jimmy Lydon, Gloria Hope.

CREDITS: Producer, Arthur L. Field; Director, Harry Beaumont; Screenplay, Ethel Hill; Cameraman, Ray June; Musical Director, David Snell; Musical arrangements, Earl Brent; Dance Routines, Arthur Walsh; Sound, Douglas Shearer; Art Directors, Cedric Gibbons, Hans Peters; Set Decorators, Edwin B. Willis, Richard Pefferle; Film Editor, Douglas Biggs.

DIRECTION, Good PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Theatre Reopens at Three Rivers, Que.

Rialto Theatre, Three Rivers, Quebec, reopened for business recently after having been closed for several months due to heavy fire and smoke damages suffered last spring. The house is now completely renovated.

It has been fitted out with the latest type of seats, designed for the greatest comfort. New sound equipment has been installed and new lighting fixtures have been added as part of the redecoration.

Sarto Robert, manager of the theatre, reports that attendance figures have remained high ever since the reopening.

The Rialto is a Famous Players house seating 527.

Within These Walls

with Thomas Mitchell, Mary Anderson, Edward Ryan

20th-Fox 71 Mins.

MODEST BUT WELL PRODUCED MELODRAMA CAPABLY ACTED SHOULD DO OKAY.

A tight little melodrama—such is "Within These Walls." Capably produced by Ben Silvey, the film keeps the interest engaged pretty well throughout and moves at a fast clip under the direction of Bruce Humberstone, who has brought much excitement to some of the incidents in this tale of a warden who is faced with the task of restoring discipline in a prison seething with discontent.

Thomas Mitchell carries the acting burden as the embattled warden who gives up a judgeship to tackle the job of re-establishing law and order among the prisoners. The film takes a strong dramatic turn and acquires added human interest when the warden's own boy (Edward Ryan) becomes one of his criminal charges. Death in an attempt to foil a jail break brings the lad redemption.

There is the suggestion of a romance in which the principals are Mary Anderson, the warden's daughter, and Mark Stevens, a prisoner who has taken the rap for another.

The film's prospects are aided considerably by the acting. Mitchell is forceful as the warden. Others who win attention for themselves are Ryan, Stevens and Roy Roberts, the leader of the attempted jail break.

CAST: Thomas Mitchell, Mary Anderson, Edward Ryan, Mark Stevens, B. S. Pully, Roy Roberts, John Russell, Norman Lloyd, Edward Kelly, Harry Shannon, Rex Williams, Ralph Dunn, Dick Rush, William Halligan, Freddie Graham, Joseph Bernard, Jack Daley, Louis Bacigalupi, Otto Reichow, Charles Wagenheim, Frank Scannell, Lennie Bremen, Steve Olsen, Harry Strang, Bob Perry, Paul Newlan, James Flavin, Eddie Hart, Dick Rich, Max Wagner.

CREDITS: Producer, Ben Silvey; Director, Bruce Humberstone; Screenplay, Eugene Ling, Wanda Tuchock; Based on story by Coles Trapnell, James B. Fisher; Cameramen, Glen MacWilliams, Clyde De Vinna; Art Directors, Lyle Wheeler, Richard Irvine; Set Decorators, Thomas Little, Ernest Lansing; Special Effects, Fred Sersen; Sound, George Leverett, Harry M. Leonard; Musical Score, David Buttolph; Musical Director, Emil Newman.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

'Behind City Lights'

Lynne Roberts and Peter Cookson are the stars of Republic's "Behind City Lights."

Incendiary Blonde

with Betty Hutton, Arturo de Cordova

Paramount 113 Mins.

FILM BASED ON TEXAS GUINAN'S LIFE SHOULD RECEIVE A SMASH RECEPTION; HUTTON A WOW.

The life of the fabulous Texas Guinan has inspired the production of a Technicolor eye-opener that has everything to win it a smash reception at the box office. "Incendiary Blonde" is an uninhibited show rich in drama, comedy, romance and music, all of which, when combined, spell popular entertainment of unusual merit. Here is diversion that is delivered with that punch and abandon that typified the period when Tex was riding high as the queen of the night clubs. That there is not one dull moment in its almost two hours of running time is attributable to the happy combination of talents negotiated by Paramount in making the film.

The picture is a personal triumph for Betty Hutton, who is at her hoydenish best as Texas Guinan. What a bombshell she is in the role—a role which gives her generous opportunity to exercise every facet of her talent. It is no exaggeration to say that she carries the film.

The film has been produced on a lavish scale. The Technicolor camera work helps to capture the flavor of Tex Guinan's times. Musical and production numbers, many of them stirring memories of days gone by, are strewn through the film with a prodigal generosity.

Miss Hutton's support is excellent. Arturo de Cordova, as Tex's supreme love, is a standout. Others contributing excellent performances are Bill Goodwin as Tex's husband, Barry Fitzgerald as her pop and Charlie Ruggles as an old pal.

CAST: Betty Hutton, Arturo de Cordova, Charlie Ruggles, Albert Dekker, Barry Fitzgerald, Mary Phillips, Bill Goodwin, Edward Ciannelli, The Maxellos, Maurice Rocco, Ted Mapes, Charles C. Wilson, Maxine Fife, Carlotta Jelm, Ann Carter, Billy Lechner, Eddie Nichols, George Nokes, Robert Winkler, Patricia Prest, Billy Curtis, Edmund MacDonald, Don Costello.

CREDITS: Director, George Marshall; Screenplay, Claude Binyon, Frank Butler.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

'Dark Corner' Murder

"The Dark Corner," 20th Century-Fox psychological murder mystery, will have Clifton Webb and William Bendix playing the top roles.

Those Endearing Young Charms

with Robert Young, Laraine Day

WARTIME ROMANCE WELL DIRECTED AND ACTED, WITH APPEAL TO AUDIENCES GENERALLY.

From Edward Chodorov's play, via Jerome Chodorov's screenplay, Bert Granet has produced a pleasant boy-meets-girl screen yarn whose central motif is the necessity of sacrificing pride in the critical stage of romance, so that regret will not stalk through one's future.

Robert Young and Laraine Day are the important sides of a triangle, with filmland's very promising newcomer, Bill Williams, the remaining side. The latter, an Air Corps mechanic, makes the blunder, insofar as his own heart interest is concerned, of introducing to Laraine Day the buddy from his town, the magnetic Young, an Air Corps lieutenant. The girl, infatuated and finally head-over-heels in love with the suave and rather consciousless officer, succeeds in the final two minutes of the film in saving their romance, as her mother, under similar circumstances, failed to do in World War I.

It is good pop entertainment which average audiences will like. The story, virtually throughout its length, builds up the rather unlikable qualities of the character assigned to Young. Consequently, one is apt to find little reason, outside of the mysterious ways of love, why Laraine Day fights so eagerly to win the officer. A well-chosen supporting cast give the film solidity, particularly the skillfull Ann Harding, as the mother.

CAST: Robert Young, Laraine Day, Ann Harding, Marc Cramer, Anne Jeffreys, Glenn Vernon, Lawrence Tierney, Norma Varden, Vera Marshe.

CREDITS: Director, Lewis Allen; Producer, Bert Granet; Screenplay, Jerome Chodorov; Author, Edward Chodorov; Executive Producer, Sid Rogell; Music by Roy Webb; Musical Director, C. Bakaleinikoff; Cameraman, Ted Tezlaff; Art Directors, Albert S. D'Agostino, Walter E. Keller; Set Decorations, Darrell Silvera, John Sturtevant; Recording Director, Richard Van Hessen; Film Editor, Roland Gross.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Ditto.

Para Comedy-Drama

Ray Milland, Teresa Wright and Brian Donlevy will be starred in "The Trouble With Women," a Paramount comedy-drama under the direction of Sydney Lanfield.

Harvest!

WARNERS'

THE CORN IS GREEN

Brings that great play to the screen with BETTE DAVIS at her very, very best!

(Doing very well, thank you, throughout Canada)

Harvest!

WARNERS'

CHRISTMAS in CONNECTICUT

Is giving Dominion exhibitors an 'early Thanksgiving'!

(Stars Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan, Sydney Greenstreet)

Harvest!

WARNERS'

MILDRED PIERCE

She's the kind of woman most men want but shouldn't have!

(Joan Crawford, Jack Carson, Zachary Scott)

Harvest!

WARNERS'

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

The jubilant story of GEORGE GERSHWIN—his life, his loves, his magnificent music!

(Robert Alda, Alexis Smith, Joan Leslie, Charles Cobourn, Al Jolson, Oscar Levant, Paul Whiteman, Hazel Scott)

Harvest!

WARNERS'

PRIDE OF THE MARINES

He's the kind of guy every girl wants for her very own LOVE STORY!

(John Garfield, Eleanor Parker, Dane Clark)

It's a bumper crop—

AND THERE'LL BE MORE COMING RIGHT UP!

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

20th-Fox Holds Regional Meet

(Continued from Page 1)

the returns during the "Sydney Samson 2nd Anniversary" drive.

Each branch manager was given his quota for the "Tom Connors Drive," which will cover a 19-week period, and each expressed an enthusiastic determination to pass his quota.

Along with Samson, those in attendance were Harry Bailey, Toronto branch manager, and Lionel Lester and Harvey Kathrin, salesmen; Ed English, Montreal branch manager, Jimmy Pearson, salesman, and Arthur Quintal, booker; and Reg March, Saint John branch manager. Sam Glazier, publicity and advertising, home office, was also present.

Sydney Samson, noting that it was the first meeting of his organization since peace came, expressed the thankfulness of the company and staff.

A full list of features was printed in the Canadian Film Weekly of August 15th.

Mono Ice Drama

Belita, Monogram star, will play the leading role in "Glamour Girl," a spectacular skating drama.

Typodermic Injections

I think "Incendiary Blonde" is a great picture and Betty Hutton a terrific performer. This Hutton girl has become one of the wonders of America, an individual of unmatched energy, rhythm, charm, personality and talent. And she has become a first-rate actress. Her pathos are close to reality and her joy lifts your spirit like a sudden sunburst on a depressingly dark day. In "Incendiary Blonde" her "Ragtime Cowboy Joe" defies you to sit still and her serious scenes reveal a maturity almost unsuspected until now. Hutton, in my opinion, will soon reach a point of development as a performer and actress that will make her the sweetheart of the screen for years to come . . . A certain film man plays his records loudly and late. "Don't the neighbors complain?" asked a visitor. "They did at first," was the reply. "Now they phone in their requests." Who was it said "If you can't lick 'em join 'em?" . . . Dick Knight of the UA staff is an amateur ornithologist and quite a writer on the subject. Come Sunday Dick hauls out his field glasses and he and his son feast their eyes, nourish their souls and stimulate their minds by identifying birds and studying their habits. Dick recently spotted a cuckoo nesting. That is rare, for the cuckoo is a feathered screwball that lays its eggs in the nests of other birds . . . Murray Devaney, out of the Navy, is back on the RKO Toronto branch sales staff and Joe Bermack has transferred to the Calgary branch . . . Irvin "Babe" Coval is through in Trinidad for Warners.

* * *

The Typographical Error

"The typographical error is a slippery thing, and sly;
You can hunt it 'til you're dizzy, but it somehow will get by.
'Til the forms are off the presses, it is strange how still it keeps;
It shrinks down in the corner and it never stirs or peeps.
That typographical error, too small for human eyes,
'Til the ink is on the paper when it grows to mountain size.
The boss, he stares in horror, then he grabs his hair and groans;
The copy-writer drops his head upon his hands and moans.
The remainder of the issue may be clean as clean can be;
But the typographical error is the only thing you see."

ANON

* * *

Small World Stuff

A major coincidence was the experience of Pte. Jack Kunitzky, who wrote about it to his folks in Saint John, New Brunswick. He was standing in line to see "Meet the Navy," which was being presented in a small town in Germany, and to help relieve the monotony of those waiting "a soldier came along and passed out copies of the 'Canadian Film Weekly' and what should I find in mine but pictures of Sammy and George telling of their promotion. . . . It also had a writeup of Charlie."

He is referring to the issue of June 27, although the letter is postmarked September 3rd. Why a soldier should be distributing copies of the Canadian Film Weekly beats me, unless undelivered copies of all magazines are pooled and distributed freehand.

The "Sammy" of Pte. Kunitzky's letter is his brother, who was made Saint John branch manager for United Artists when "George" was transferred from that post to manage the Montreal office. "George" is George Heiber, Jack's brother-in-law. Heiber came to Montreal when "Charlie" left it to become Canadian division manager for United Artists. "Charlie" is Charlie Chaplin, who succeeded the late A. J. Jeffrey. Charlie is also a brother-in-law of Pte. Kunitzky and the "writeup" was the report of the farewell dinner in his honor at Montreal.

Pacific Bagdad

Los Angeles, fabulous city of movie fame, is presented as the Bagdad of the Pacific in an RKO short, latest in the This Is America series.

'Musical Hall Murder'

Vera Hruba Ralston will star in Republic's "Murder in the Music Hall," with Ann Rutherford playing her first dramatic role.

Columbia Opens New Building

(Continued from Page 1)

right beside the building being constructed as the new Dominion head office of Warner Brothers, which will occupy the corner of Church and Carlton Streets. Warners' building will be opened for business late in November.

The Columbia-Allen structure will be known as the "Albion Building."

Columbia's executive offices have been transferred to the second floor of the Carlton Street exchange. The screening room is located below the main floor.

Also moved to the new location have been the offices of the companies which represent the major exhibition interests of the Allens and associates, Premier Operating Company, which operates 32 theatres in Ontario and two in Quebec, and Theatre Holding Corporation.

Erection of the new building was begun a year ago under special permit from Ottawa, following an order from the Theatre Inspection branch of the Province of Ontario.

The order called for the removal of Columbia and Warner Brothers to premises exclusively theirs and constructed according to special safety regulations specified by the branch. It resulted from the explosion and fire which gutted the Film Exchange Building at 277 Victoria Street. Inspectors deemed 21 Dundas Square unsafe while film exchanges were being operated in it.

The fourth floor premises vacated by Columbia, Premier Operating and Theatre Holding will be occupied by Twinex Century Theatres, which now occupies the 11th floor and part of the fifth at 21 Dundas Square. Twinex will occupy the 11th and Fourth floors but drop its space on the fifth.

Columbia and the Allen interests were located in the Hermant Building since 1920.

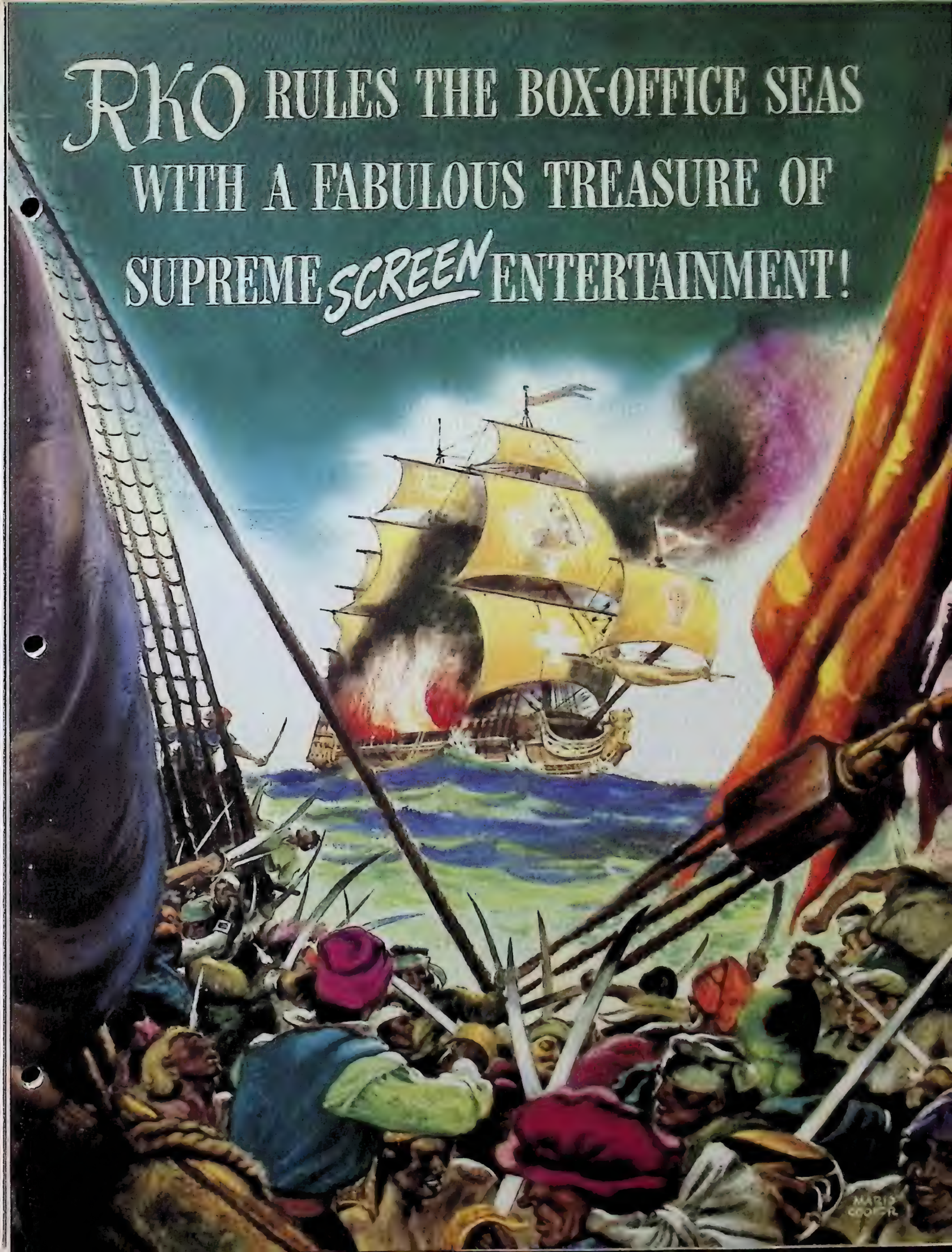
H. G. Duerr is the architect who drew up the plans for the new Carlton Street quarters.

Jack Cohn Dinner Being Arranged

New York filmites are active in organizing a testimonial dinner for Jack Cohn, pioneer of the Pioneers and head of Columbia. Barney Balaban is honorary chairman and Nat B. Spingold chairman. Bob Weitman, manager of the Paramount, New York, is in charge of the talent and agencies division.

There ought to be quite a few Canucks on hand, for Jack Cohn has many admirers in what is left of British North America.

RKO RULES THE BOX-OFFICE SEAS WITH A FABULOUS TREASURE OF SUPREME *SCREEN* ENTERTAINMENT!



THE BIG SHOW FOR THE BIG MONEY!

in Glorious TECHNICOLOR!

. . . A picture to make the blood of millions
race warm and their dreams
roam free, as they thrill to this most
romantic of all adventure
dramas; this lusty story of the
Robin Hood of the Seven Seas, who
captured his prizes through the
fire of his kiss or the
sting of his steel!

The SPANISH MAIN

PAUL HENREID

MAUREEN O'HARA

WALTER SLEZAK

A FRANK BORZAGE PRODUCTION

with

BINNIE BARNES · JOHN EMERY

Barton MacLane · J. M. Kerrigan · Fritz Leiber
Nancy Gates · Jack LaRue · Mike Mazurki · Ian Keith

Executive Producer ROBERT FELLOWS · *Associate Producer* STEPHEN AMES

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE

Screen Play by George Worthing Yates and Herman J. Mankiewicz

RKO RADIO

RKO BRINGS THE GREAT NEWS OF "THE SPANISH MAIN'S" COMING TO

66,244,618 FAMILIES!..

Through full-page ads (mostly in four colors) in magazines such as
LIFE • SATURDAY EVENING POST • McCALL'S • WOMAN'S DAY • TIME
NEWSWEEK • TRUE STORY • RED BOOK • LIBERTY • FAMILY CIRCLE
PIC and the *ENTIRE FAN LIST.*

and through full or half-page four-color cartoon-strip ads in the comic or magazine sections of 139 newspapers.
(one or more insertions)

ALABAMA
Birmingham News-Age Herald
Mobile Press-Register

ARIZONA
Phoenix Republic

ARKANSAS
Little Rock Ar. Democrat
Little Rock Ar. Gazette

CALIFORNIA
Fresno Bee
Long Beach Press Telegram
Los Angeles Examiner
Los Angeles Times
Oakland Tribune
Pasadena Star-News
Sacramento Bee
Sacramento Union
San Diego Union
San Francisco Chronicle
San Francisco Examiner

COLORADO
Denver Post
Denver Rocky Mt. News
(also "Parade" in Rocky Mt. News)

CONNECTICUT
Bridgeport Herald
Bridgeport Post
(also "Parade" in Post)
Hartford Courant

DELAWARE
New Haven Register
Waterbury Republican

DIST. OF COL.
Washington Post
(also "Parade" in Post)
Washington Star
Washington Times Herald

FLORIDA
Jacksonville Times-Union
(also "Parade" in Times-Union)
Miami Herald
Miami News
Tampa Tribune

GEORGIA
Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta Journal
Savannah News

ILLINOIS
Chicago Herald-American
Chicago News
Chicago Sun
(also "Parade" in Sun)
Chicago Times
Chicago Tribune
Peoria Journal-Star
Rockford Star

INDIANA
Evansville Courier-Press
Ft. Wayne Journal-Gazette
Ft. Wayne News-Sentinel
Hammond Times
Indianapolis Star
South Bend Tribune
Terre Haute Tribune-Star

IOWA
Des Moines Register

KANSAS
Wichita Beacon
Wichita Eagle

KENTUCKY
Louisville Courier-Journal

LOUISIANA
New Orleans Times Picayune
Shreveport Times

MAINE
Portland Sunday Telegram
(also "Parade" in Sun. Tel.)

MARYLAND
Baltimore American
Baltimore Sun

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston Advertiser
Boston Globe
Boston Herald
Boston Post
New Bedford Standard-Times
(also "Parade" in Stan. Times)
Springfield Union & Rep.
Worcester Telegram

MICHIGAN
Detroit Free Press
(also "Parade" in Free Press)
Detroit News
Detroit Times
Grand Rapids Herald

MINNESOTA
Duluth News Tribune
Minneapolis Tribune
St. Paul Pioneer Press

MISSOURI
Kansas City Star
St. Louis Globe-Democrat
St. Louis Post Dispatch

NEBRASKA
Omaha World Herald

NEW JERSEY
Newark Call
Newark Star-Ledger
(also "Parade" in Star Ledger)
Trenton Times

NEW YORK
Albany Times Union
Brooklyn Eagle
Buffalo Courier-Express
New York Daily News
New York Herald Tribune
New York Journal American
New York Mirror
Rochester Democrat & Chronicle
Syracuse Herald-American
(also "Parade" in Her. Amer.)
Syracuse Post-Standard
Utica Observer-Dispatch

NORTH CAROLINA
Charlotte News
Charlotte Observer
Winston-Salem Journal Sentinel

OHIO
Akron Beacon-Journal
(also "Parade" in Beacon Jnl.)
Canton Repository
Cincinnati Enquirer
Cleveland Plain Dealer
Columbus Dispatch
Dayton Journal Herald
Dayton News
Toledo Times
(also "Parade" in Times)
Youngstown Vindicator
(also "Parade" in Vindicator)

OKLAHOMA
Oklahoma City Oklahoman
Tulsa World

OREGON
Portland Oregonian
Portland Oregon Journal

PENNSYLVANIA
Erie Dispatch-Herald
Philadelphia Inquirer
Philadelphia Record
Pittsburgh Press
Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph
Reading Eagle
Scranton Scrantonian

RHODE ISLAND
Providence Journal

TENNESSEE
Chattanooga Times
Knoxville Journal
Knoxville News-Sentinel
Memphis Commercial Appeal
Nashville Tennessean

TEXAS
Dallas News
Dallas Times-Herald
El Paso Times
(also "Parade" in Times)
Ft. Worth Star
Houston Chronicle
Houston Post
San Antonio Express
San Antonio Light

UTAH
Salt Lake City Deseret News
Salt Lake City Tribune

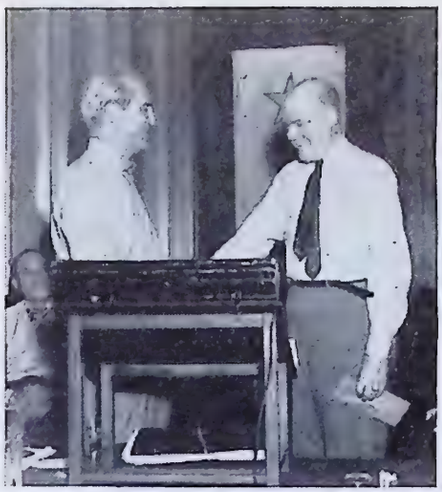
VIRGINIA
Norfolk Virginia Pilot
Richmond Times-Dispatch
Roanoke Times

WASHINGTON
Seattle Post-Intelligencer
Seattle Times
Spokane Spokesman Review
Tacoma News Tribune

WEST VIRGINIA
Charleston Gazette
Charleston Mail
Charleston Herald-Adv.

WISCONSIN
Milwaukee Journal
Milwaukee Sentinel

LITHO U S A



At the First Canadian Convention of RKO Radio Pictures

Top row, left to right, (1) Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO, congratulates George Degnon, Canadian adevrtising and publicity representative, and presents him with bonus cheque. (2) Leo M. Devaney, Canadian division general manager; Mark Plottel, manager of the Toronto branch; and Ray Tubman, Ottawa district manager for Famous Players. (3) A. S. Schubart, branch operations manager, New York; George Degnon; Gerald Danis, editor, Le Film, Montreal; Henry Moss, Consolidated Theatres, Montreal; R. "Buster" Radis, Winnipeg; S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity, New York; and Tom Cleary, Consolidated Theatres, Montreal.

Bottom row, left to right, (1) Cleary, Degnon, Moss, Herb Whittaker, Montreal Gazette; Miss McGrath, Montreal Gazette; Sid Johnston, Montreal Star; Ted McCormick, Montreal Herald; and Charles Levy, Eastern publicity representative, Walt Disney Attractions, New York. (2) George Ganetakos, president, United Amusements, Montreal; (3) Ray Tubman and Ben Geldsaler, general booking manager, Famous Players.

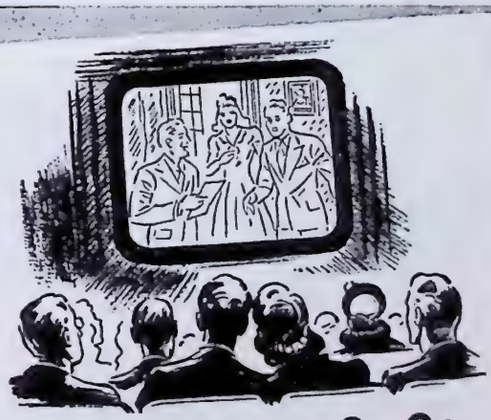
May Re-Establish Alta. Censor Board

Re-establishment of a board of motion picture censors for Alberta is under consideration by the Provincial government following the recent retirement of Robert Pearson, chief censor for 17 years.

A board of censors functioned in the province before Pearson was appointed in 1928, but since then the chief censor has carried on with the assistance of a deputy, Mrs. E. McCaig.

Tea Room Closes at The Capitol, Ottawa

After having raised $58,000 for various war funds, the lunch and tea service which was operated during the war at the Capitol Theatre, Ottawa, by the Ottawa Women's Canadian Club has been closed, it is reported. The project was maintained entirely by volunteers and all the profits made from serving meals and teas were donated to the war effort.



The Show Must Go On

Yes, the Show must go on, but it won't if your equipment breaks down. In these times it's your most valued possession. Safeguard it with Dominion Sound Service.

Dominion Sound Equipments
LIMITED
Head Office: 1620 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal
Branches at HALIFAX TORONTO WINNIPEG REGINA CALGARY VANCOUVER

A National Theatre Service, such as maintained by Dominion Sound Equipments Limited, means—an organization with a specially trained personnel to provide regular and emergency technical service, equipment and supplies for theatres.

Great Britain's Big Film Program

By Roger Manvell

During the war, British films have made a reputation in both the feature and documentary field. In this article, Roger Manvell discusses the promising production schedules of the various British film studios, which, if they fulfill their promises, should assure the quality and variety of British films in peacetime.

THE testing-time for British films has arrived. When in 1939 war came to Britain, her film industry responded by dramatising war themes, the violence of battle, the heroic emotions, the tough enduring loyalties. As a result, British films have now made a reputation in both feature and documentary production. The test will be whether this reputation can be maintained in themes suitable for peacetime.

This year will see the almost total elimination of war pictures. A notable New Year production from Gainsborough Studios, directed by Sidney Gilliat, was the swift and vigorous **Waterloo Road**, about a wartime social problem, the soldier's wife who tires of the companionship of the older generation and having no home of her own, and so allows herself to be attracted by another man in her husband's absence.

Gainsborough Studios, among others, have announced a programme of romantic films. Their stars will include Margaret Lockwood, Phyllis Calvert, John Mills, James Mason, Barbara Mullen and Stewart Granger, whilst chief films include **Madonna of the Seven Moons**, a romantic story set in Italy about a woman with a "split personality", **A Place of One's Own**, an unusual ghost story suggesting the psychic power of a house over its inhabitants, and a romance treatment of the life of Paganini, **The Magic Bow**. It is also hoped to produce Sir Walter Scott's novel "Rob Roy" in color.

Another studio with a romantic picture policy is Associated British Picture Corporation which is to make among its films, **I Live in Grosvenor Square**. Directed by Herbert Wilcox with Anna Neagle as the star, the story concerns the triangle situation between a British officer and an American officer who are both in love with a British girl. British National Studios, announcements include two films which show the English countryside to advantage, **Strawberry Roan** set in Cumberland. Another film to show the countryside, in this case the Cotswolds, will be **Great Day**. This will be made by RKO Radio British and will feature Eric Portman and Flora Robson. On the other hand, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, who have worked together on such films as **49th Parallel** and **The Canterbury Tale**, have taken Roger Livesey and Wendy Hiller to the Scottish island of Mull to make **I know Where I'm Going**, the love-story of a girl who finds her conception of life changed by her surroundings when she leaves the industrial Midlands for the remote islands of the Hebrides.

The aim of all these pictures is to develop a boxoffice appeal on more or less accepted lines. The standards of production and settings and star-value promise to be high. Although the primary aim of these films will be home market, most of them should be particularly suitable to help in the development of British pictures abroad, especially those which have their stories set in the British countryside.

Ealing Studios, which have produced in the past so many excellent yet unpretentious war pictures, have decided on a policy of purely entertainment films, yet with rather unusual themes. Among them is **Johnny Frenchman**, directed by Charles Frend and starring the distinguished actress Francoise Rosay. This is a romance with the theme of the traditional rivalry between the Breton and Cornish fisherfolk, and it was filmed for the most part in Cornwall. An interesting experiment almost completed is a series of four ghost stories linked into one film after the style of the American picture, **Flesh and Fantasy**. One of the episodes is taken from a story by H. G. Wells. Another film will be set in the beautiful English county of Sussex, and based on a novel by Sheila Kaye-Smith: it will be called **Sussex Gorse** and is the story of an over-ambitious farmer whose anxiety to acquire land complicates his family relationships. The famous murder play, **Pink String and Sealing Wax**, set in Victorian Brighton, will be the basis of another Ealing film, whilst **Soho Melodrama** will feature London's underworld. Harry Watt, director of so many famous documentaries, including **Target for Tonight**, is in Australia making a film for Ealing called **Outlanders**, based on the great cattle-trek which took place when northern Australia was threatened by Japan. Another picture will endeavour to show the problems of men repatriated from German POW camps. Finally, Ealing announce that another former documentary director, Cavalcanti, will make a film version of Dickens' novel, **Nicholas Nickleby**, and that much of it will be photographed in Yorkshire.

This is an ambitious and varied programme. It should develop Ealing Studios' reputation for making films with an unmistakably British quality.

Sydney Box the well-known independent producer is making an interesting series of pictures at Riverside Studios. **Acacia Avenue**, **Musical Chairs**, and **No Orchids for Miss Blandish** are all based on successful British and American plays. Two others are **They came over in the Mayflower**, a story of the Pilgrim Fathers, and a film with the title **Love and William Shakespeare**. Several new directors and stars are to be given their chance in these productions, since it is obvious that a progressive policy in filmmaking must involve the discovery and use of new talent.

1945 should see the release of the long-awaited **Caesar and Cleopatra**, Gabriel Pascal's film in color from Bernard Shaw's play, featuring Claude Rains as Caesar and Vivien Leigh as Cleopatra. This film is financed by Mr. Arthur Rank, like Laurence Olivier's **Henry V**, also made in Technicolor and released at the end of 1944. These two films have been made with an eye on the world market. They are prestige films which could never pay their way in Britain alone. The splendor of Oliver Messel's designs for **Caesar and Cleopatra** are said to contribute substantially towards making the film the most elaborate and decorative ever to come from a British studio.

Another of Mr. Arthur Rank's studios, Two Cities, has in preparation **Men of Two Worlds**, directed by Thorold Dickinson in East Africa. This is a film which deals with the important theme of the struggle of men with modern ideas against the reactionary pride and superstition of tribal society. Eric Portman, Phyllis Calvert and Robert Adams will play the chief parts. Other films from Two Cities during 1945 will be a Technicolor version of Noel Coward's **Blithe Spirit**, directed by David Lean, Stefan Zweig's **Beware of Pity**, Compton Mackenzie's **Carnival**, and **Rendezvous**, a picture about the RAF by the playwright Terence Rattigan and the film producer Anatole de Grunwald. A screen adaption of Mr. Churchill's study of his ancestor Marlborough is also promised.

Frank Lauder and Sidney Gilliat are in charge of Individual Pictures Ltd. They are making a modern version of the Hogarth theme **The Rake's Progress**. They have also announced that they are going to produce **The Red Prophet**, a life of Karl Marx, and **The Sleeping Sword**, the story of the British Industrial Revolution.

Not all these films will get their release during 1945, but it is good to see so much promise in the production schedules. To end the story, the future is said to hold productions of Bernard Shaw's **The Doctor's Dilemma** and **Saint Joan**, both to be produced by Gabriel Pascal, Noel Coward's **Brief Encounter**, and the productions of Sir Alexander Korda in association with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, which will include **Velvet Coat**, a life of Robert Louis Stevenson, Paul Taborl's **Bricks Upon Dust**, Dickens's **Pickwick Papers**, Arnold Bennett's **Old Wives' Tale** and Tolstoy's **War and Peace**. If such films live up to their titles the quality and variety of future British films should be assured. There should be no return to the cheap dull pictures of the pre-war era.

Gene in New Pic

Gene Tierney will play the leading role in the 20th Century-Fox Production of "Daisy Kenyon."

Share Star Honors

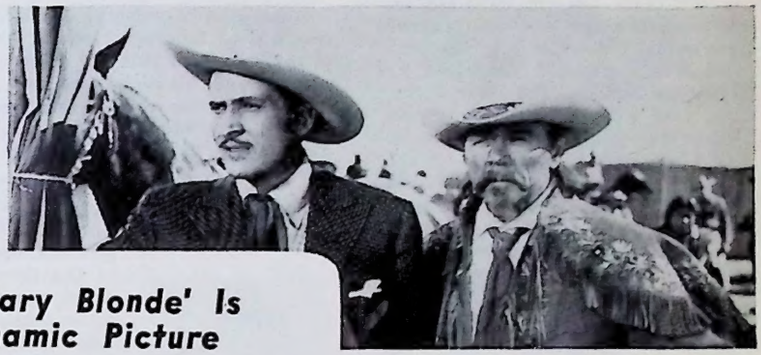
Robert Young and Frank Morgan will share starring honors with Barbara Hale, a new movie actress, in RKO's "Lady Luck."

Double Sound Tracks To Enhance Movies

Binaural films—films with two sound tracks—developed by 20th Century-Fox, will make sound movies more realistic than ever before. These films, with two loudspeaker sets in each theatre, one on either side of the screen, will be introduced as soon as equipment is available.

A band marching across the screen will be heard first on one side and then on the other. Dialogue will come from the lips of the respective speakers.

Elaborate new theatres are planned to present this new type of sound recording.



'Incendiary Blonde' Is A Dynamic Picture

PARAMOUNT'S Third of a Century special, "Incendiary Blonde," is a lavish production which tells the story of Texas Guinan, toast of the speakeasy era. It's in Technicolor.

Betty Hutton, playing the lead, shows herself to be a capable dramatic actress as well as a dynamic entertainer. Although dominating the show, she gets good support from Barry Fitzgerald, Arturo de Cordova, Charlie Ruggles, Albert Dekker and Bill Goodwin.

Snowdon Plans To Go Ahead

(Continued from Page 1)

onto is not successful. The company owns a lot on Yonge Street on the opposite side of the street, according to Morris Weiss, and will use the site affected by the judgment as a parking space.

Application of F. A. A. Campbell, K.C., for the City of Toronto, requesting a modification of building restrictions to permit a theatre on the lot was refused when opposed by W. R. West, who acted for certain Snowden Avenue property owners.

The City had acquired the lot some time ago and had agreed to sell it providing that the purchaser be granted the right to erect a theatre. The restrictions, part of a building scheme, prevent anything but a house or store from being erected on the front part of the lot, which is Yonge Street.

According to the judgment ". . . The application is opposed very strongly by nearby residents of Snowden Ave., a quiet residential street, who fear that although a lot is to be provided for the parking of cars, patrons of the theatre will park their cars in front of their houses to their inconvenience and that there will be noise and general inconvenience. . . . In this case I am not satisfied that there is any balance of convenience in favor of the application. . . . Stores are permitted and the city would have many opportunities no doubt to sell to people contemplating the erection of a store as time goes on. Also there being another theatre close by, the community is well served and I see no necessity for a second so close. The application will be dismissed with costs if asked."

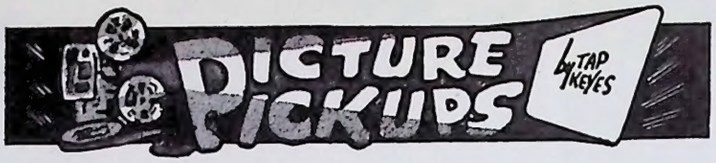
The Bedford, a 20th Century theatre, is on the block which holds the Snowden site.

Jules Levey, Independent Hollywood producer and his brother-in-law, Morris Weiss of Toronto, are interested in Snowdon Investors, which has plans for eight theatres, part of a scheduled 25.

Fromkess Appointed Goldwyn Vice-Prexy

Leon Fromkess, who recently resigned as president of PRC Pictures, has been named a vice-president in the Samuel Goldwyn organization, it is announced. He will play a part in Goldwyn's future plans for expanded production.

Associated with PRC since the company was organized, Fromkess was vice-president in charge of production before becoming president in 1943.



The Bishop and the Pickpocket

While Cathie, on the screen of the Tivoli Theatre, left the protection of Wuthering Heights to unsuccessfully seek the moody Heathcliffe on the stormy moors of Yorkshire, another manhunt, more prolonged was being successfully ended in the auditorium.

What led to the latter search was a pesky pickpocket who had been plaguing the patrons for some time. Unwary ladies who left their purses on the next seat and soldiers and airmen whose tunics, having been shed for comfort, hung behind where they sat, had reported being robbed. What caused Len Bishop, the manager, to become particularly angry was the complaint from one warrior, home but two days, that his wallet and the $150 in it were gone.

As complaints increased Bishop, mentally donning the two-way hat of Sherlock Holmes, discovered certain things that led to the deduction that the same man was responsible for each act of pilferage. All took place only during a certain time of day and in an area close to the foyer, so that escape could be successful with half a chance. The pickpocket always operated during Len's dinner hour, between 5.30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The best defence, Bishop decided, was a good offense. He got in touch with Police Sergeant Jim McGregor of No. 1 Division who, after hearing Bishop's plan, assigned Constables Ross Riley and Tom Field to the theatre in plain clothes. Len sent a dozen passes to the canteen each day and those who used them agreed to tempt the thief by letting their tunics hang backwards over their seats.

POWELL

The constables, Riley and Field, were new to the force and so were not yet known to hardened criminals, nor had they that affidavit of police affiliation, the authoritative manner. Each dinner hour they sat and watched the area occupied by the servicemen.

Sure enough, one supper show P. C. Riley noticed a man changing seats so as to be nearer Sergeant-Major J. Vultican, whose tunic hung over the seat in a tempting way. Vultican seemed absorbed by what was going on on the screen and interested in the lady beside him. But he felt a tug on his tunic and waited until he was reasonably certain that his wallet had changed locations, then grabbed the thief's wrist.

Riley headed for the scene but not before the pickpocket had offered Vultican his wallet back. It was the policeman's initial arrest.

The thief, whose police photo is shown above, is named Harold Powell. Magistrate Brown gave him six months in jail. He would have gotten three years but for the fact that Vultican's wallet contained under $25, the limit for that sum or under being what he did get.

Bishop did every downtown manager a favor by nabbing Powell.

When Bishop finally saw the man who had been upsetting things around his theatre he recognized him immediately. Powell, you see, often played billiards at Karry's, where Daley, Bishop and I play an occasional after-show game or two during winter evenings.

So Bishop, in noting that the robberies always took place in his absence, was rather observant. Powell always made sure Len wasn't around to recognize and watch him.

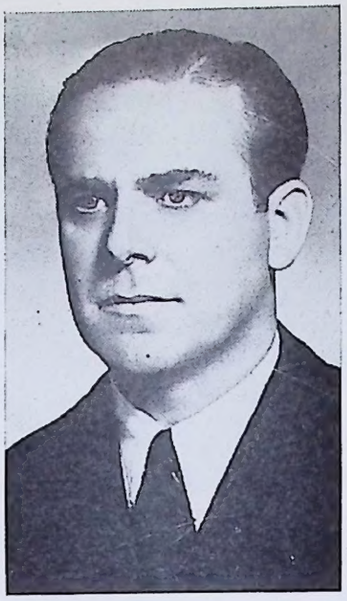
Mr. Bishop, flattered and amazed by his own cleverness at detective work, has undertaken to find Charlie Ross, Judge Crater, Ambrose Small and Adolf Hitler—if alive.

New March of Time

"Palestine Problem" has been named by 20th Century-Fox as the first of the 1945-46 March of Time subjects, of which there will be the usual 13.

Hitchcock's Next

Alfred Hitchcock, foremost Hollywood mystery director, will direct "Notorious," co-starring Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman, for RKO.



SIDNEY ALBRIGHT

He has been appointed managing director of 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation in Australia by Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox International Corporation. Albright recently resigned from United Artists and takes over his new post in October.

MPTAO Holds Annual Meeting October 23

Annual luncheon meeting of the Motion Pictures Theatres Association of Ontario, will be held on October 23, at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, it is announced by Arch. H. Jolley, executive secretary.

Election of officers for the ensuing year will take place at this time.

WB Employees Club Elects Executive

Warners' employees club, Toronto, elected the following officers for 1945-46 at a meeting held at the club rooms last week:

Sam I. Shapero, president; Wm. McGuire, vice-president and entertainment committee chairman; Eva Cohen, vice-president and membership chairman; Theresa Mancino, secretary; Aldo Maggiorotti, treasurer. Haskell M. Masters is chairman of contributions and loans.

The following were elected to the entertainment committee: Wm. McGuire, Rosanna Katz, Rosalyn Sheffe, Christine Grant, Max Applebaum, Norman Titcher and George Altman.

Sam Shapero, president, reports that varied activities are in the offing for the employees club after Warners moves into its new building which will be equipped with an up-to-date recreation room for the use of the members.

RKO Into Orient With 16 Mm. Pix

RKO, through Leon Britton, supervisor for the Orient and the Far East, has made known its intention of staging a drive on that field with 16 mm. films. Britton estimates that the smallguage films could develop a new audience of 100,000,000 among people who have yet to see their first film.

At the same time United Artists has begun to show an interest in 16 mm. and prefab theatres for Latin America.

Britton, who has been in South America for RKO since the Japs closed his Singapore office, wasn't sure whether a special structure would handle 16 mm. or whether present offices would add it to their tasks. Mobile units and existing structures, if suitable, would be used for exhibition.

Prints in 16 mm. will be made of each RKO feature and short and title superimposed if necessary. Competition is expected from the Phillipine film industry, now being revived, which plans to enter the 16 mm. field in its territory.

RKO is the second company to announce expansion into 16 mm. in a large way, Loew's International having announced a 16 mm. division to serve the world, with the exception of the USA and Canada.

Spencer's Next Pic

Spencer Tracy's next MGM picture will be "Before the Sun Goes Down," produced by Pandro S. Berman.

Josephs Named Aide To Abe Montague

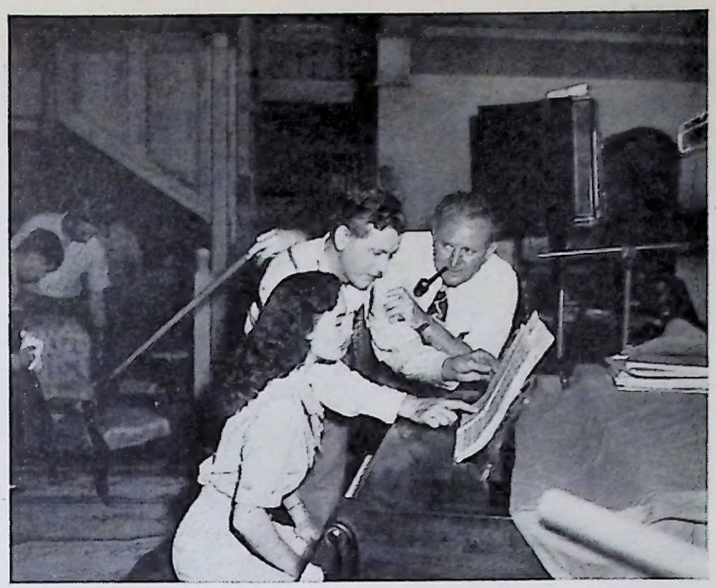
In line with Columbia's policy of promotion from within the ranks, George Josephs, manager of the sales accounting department has been named assistant to general sales manager A. Montague.

Josephs came to Columbia in 1928 as a bookkeeper while still attending New York University.

RKO Profits Down In First Half Year

RKO and all subsidiaries reported a net profit of $2,421,-778.78 for the 26 weeks ending June 30, 1945, after all charges were deducted. This compares with $2,588,493.02, net profit for the first half of 1944.

Provisions for estimated income and excess profits tax for the first half of 1945 were $3,-340,000 as against $4,377,000 for the same period of the previous year.



Catherine McLeod and Philip Dorn, stars of Republic's Technicolor film "Concerto," study the Rachmaninoff second piano concerto for their roles in the picture, while producer-director Frank Borzage (with pipe) looks on.

Both players are required to learn all the correct fingering for the difficult composition, but the concerto will actually be played by Artur Rubenstein, one of the world's greatest pianists, who will play for the first time for motion picture audiences in "Concerto."

Jules Levey Surveys Public Movie Tastes

Jules Levey is conducting a survey of the public's taste in motion pictures. He is querying 15,000 exhibitors to determine what type of pictures he should make during the 1945-46 season.

Listing 12 backgrounds for motion pictures which are of proven dramatic and boxoffice value, Levey is attempting to determine which of these, in the exhibitor's opinion, has the highest mass appeal rating. Included in the list are the following types of stories: war, gangster, love, domestic drama, mystery, light musical, western, sea, costume, family comedy and sports.

Levey's current production for United Artists release has been renamed "Abilene," after General Eisenhower's home town in Kansas. The film is based on "Trail Town," a best-seller whose story closely parallels the factual story of Abilene.

Rank Again Head of Producers' Society

Following his re-election as chairman of the British Film Producers Association for the third straight year, J. Arthur Rank stated in London, that except for the very serious lack of studio space, the future of British films is very bright.

Assistance of the Board of Trade is expected to be sought in an effort to hasten the present slow rate of studio de-requisition, it is reported. Numerous films have also been put back because of the delay in returning prints to regular industry usage.

Columbia's Ad-Pub Director Returns

Having received his discharge from the United States Army, Corporal David A. Lipton is returning to his post as director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for Columbia pictures. He was on leave of absence while in the service.

Lipton will also serve as public relations consultant to the War Activities Committee for the remainder of that organization's existence.

Three Star Picture

Orson Welles will star with Edward G. Robinson and Loretta Young in International's "The Stranger," a new melodrama for RKO release.

Halifax Theatres Admit Vets Free

War veterans who are patients in military hospitals at Halifax, NS, have been admitted free of charge to the Capitol and Casino Theatres in the Maritime city for more than two years. This was made possible through the arrangements made by J. W. Howe, supervisor of YMCA War Services, in cooperation with the managers of the Famous Players and Odeon theatres.

About 50 walking cases from the Camp Hill Hospital attend the Capitol Theatre twice weekly and similar groups from the Naval Hospital and Cogswell Street Hospital attend the Casino Theatre at specified times during the week.

Free transportation is provided for the patients from the hospitals to the theatres by the Pender Bus Service.

Grad Sears Drive Gets Nice Boost

Several dozen bookers and theatre executives were present at an informal but successful party and buffet supper, held recently in the Toronto offices of United Artists, to celebrate the Canadian division's part in the Grad Sears $100,000 Sales Drive, which will continue until December, 1945.

Douglas V. Rosen, Toronto branch manager, and Charles Chaplin, UA's Canadian division chief, acted as hosts, with Doug in his customary fettle—which is the traditional "fine."

Surprise of the party was the unexpected presence of popular Ed Schnitzer, United Artists home office executive and captain of the general drive, who made a flying trip to be present.

Chaplin had just arrived back in Toronto after a 6,000 mile jaunt around UA's Canadian circuit and he was particularly jubilant about the standings of Canadian exchanges in the sales drive. He expressed the belief that the present line-up of pictures is one of the greatest ever to come under the United Artists banner.

Pictures now on the company's release schedule include David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" and "I'll Be Seeing You"; Hunt Stromberg's "Guest in the House"; Bing Crosby's "The Great John L."; Edward Small's "Abroad With Two Yanks"; Sol Lesser's "Three is a Family"; William Cagney's "Blood on the Sun"; Andrew Stone's "Bedside Manner"; Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow the World" and Ernie Pyle's "Story of G.I. Joe"; Jack Skirball's "The Chair" and "Guest Wife"; Charles Roger's "Delightfully Dangerous"; J. Arthur Rank's "Mr. Emmanuel" and "Colonel Blimp"; David Loew's "The Southerner"; the National Film Board's "World in Action" short subject series; and the Technicolor cartoons "Daffy Ditties."

Civic Stadium For Toronto Approved

Toronto's Board of Control has approved the building of a civic stadium seating between 30,000 and 40,000 persons, on the site of the CNE grandstand. It is also to be established through the conversion of the present structure and the remodelling of the grounds at an estimated cost of $40,000.

Elwood Hughes, general manager of the CNE, and C. E. Chambers, Toronto parks commissioner, have been appointed to handle the project which is expected to be completed by the fall of next year.

MAKING HISTORY!

Never before has any revival bill developed into such boxoffice power as is being registered by "Imitation of Life" and "East Side of Heaven." Playing "A" houses everywhere, singly or as a combination bill, these two features are grossing dollar for dollar with the best of the current product.

CLAUDETTE COLBERT
in FANNIE HURST'S
"IMITATION OF LIFE"
with WARREN WILLIAM
ROCHELLE HUDSON
Ned Sparks · Henry Armetta
Baby Jane · Alan Hale
A John M. Stahl Production

IMITATION OF LIFE

EAST SIDE OF HEAVEN

BING CROSBY
JOAN BLONDELL
MISCHA AUER
in
"EAST SIDE OF HEAVEN"
with IRENE HERVEY
C. AUBREY SMITH · JEROME COWAN
"SANDY" · MATTY MALNECK and His Orchestra · Screen Play by William Conselman · Original Story by David Butler and Herbert Fields
DIRECTED BY DAVID BUTLER

HELD OVER to Top Business at the Lafayette, Buffalo; Missouri, St. Louis; Grand, Cincinnati; Republic, New York; Bijou, Springfield, Mass.; Fulton, Pittsburgh; Proctors, Newark; Hawaii, Los Angeles; Adams, Detroit; Broadway, Denver; Century, Rochester; Rivoli, Toledo; Allen, Cleveland; Granada, Spokane; Tower, San Diego; and others.

COMPARABLE RESULTS HAVE BEEN RECORDED IN RECENT RUNS IN TORONTO AND HAMILTON

AND HEADED FOR OUTSTANDING BUSINESS ALL OVER CANADA
—— DATE IT EARLY! ——

Empire-UNIVERSAL FILMS LTD.